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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 2-20 are pending in this application. By this amendment, Applicants cancel claim 1 and amend claims 2, 4-9 and 15, 16 and 18-20.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 2, 4 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1, 3, 5-9 and 11-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. (US 2002/0017864) in view of Deeken et al. (U.S. 6,114,404).

Applicants have amended allowable claim 2 to be in independent form including all of the features of base claim 1. In addition, Applicants have canceled claim 1 and amended claims 4-9 and 15, 16 and 18-20 so as to be dependent upon allowable claim 2.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of claims 1, 3, 5-9 and 11-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. in view of Deeken et al. is moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 2 is allowable. Claims 3-20 depend upon claim 2, and are therefore allowable for at least the reasons that claim 2 is allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are solicited.

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The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Respectfully submitted,

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